

CLAIMS:

1. A method of automatically including one or more context related links in association with scene data content, characterized in that the method includes the steps of:
 - (a) providing a recording apparatus (10) including:
 - (i) data storing means (100) for reading and/or writing data content;
 - (ii) sensing means (70) for sensing audio and/or visual subject matter from a scene (FS) and generating corresponding scene data content;
 - (iii) identifying means (50, 60) for use in identifying a spatial location of the apparatus (10) in proximity of the scene (FS) and/or an identity of the scene (FS);
 - (iv) computing means (30) for co-ordinating operation of the data storing means (!00), the sensing means (70) and the identifying means(50, 60);
 - (b) arranging for the data storing means (100) to include link data susceptible to being invoked to associate one or more spatial locations (FS) and/or scene identities with corresponding linkable data content;
 - (c) activating the apparatus (10) in proximity of a desired scene (FS) and receiving audio and/or visual subject matter therefrom to generate corresponding desired scene data content;
 - (d) using the identifying means (50, 60) to determine a spatial location of the apparatus (FS) in proximity of the desired scene and/or an identity of the desired scene (FS);
 - (e) identifying one or more links (410) in the link data associated with the spatial location and/or identity determined in step (d) and recording them automatically together in the storing means (100) with at least one of the desired scene data content derived from step (c) and the spatial location and/or identity from step (d),
wherein the one or more links are concurrently and/or subsequently susceptible to being invoked to include corresponding linkable data content with the scene data to generate final composite data content.
2. A method according to claim 1, wherein in step (d) the identifying means (50, 60) is arranged to determine the spatial location of the apparatus (10) in proximity of the desired scene and/or the identity of the desired scene by employing at least one of:

- (i) a GPS satellite-derived reference (310);
- (ii) an identification provided from one or more remotely communicating devices (320) included within the desired scene (FS), the devices (320) being arranged to impart information regarding the nature of the scene (FS) to the apparatus (10); and

5 (iii) by image and/or audio analysis of the desired scene data content by correlating and/or associating the desired scene data with scene-identification reference data.

3. A method according to claim 1, wherein the one or more links automatically included with the scene data content are susceptible to being at least one of:

10 (i) dormant and susceptible to being activated on subsequent user demand;

(ii) active at user demand and susceptible to being rendered dormant on subsequent user demand.

4. A method according to claim 3, wherein the one or more links automatically and/or on user demand included with the scene data content are susceptible to being subsequently deleted, for example when not required for generating the composite data.

5. A method according to claim 1, wherein at least one of the link data and its associated linkable data content are provided to the apparatus (10) in at least partly encrypted form, the apparatus (10) being operable to decrypt at least a part of the encrypted link data and its associated link data content using one or more decryption keys.

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6. A method according to claim 5, wherein the one or more decryption keys are provided to the apparatus (10) in return for corresponding consideration, for example payment.

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7. A method according to claim 1, wherein the data storing means is operable to receive the link data by at least one of:

(i) coupling the apparatus (10) to a communication network having available

30 therein the link data; and

(ii) introducing a data carrier (120) to the storing means (100), the carrier including at least the link data recorded thereon.

8. A method according to claim 1, wherein the data storing means (100) comprises at least one of:

- (a) one or more optical data carriers (110, 120);
- (b) one or more magnetic hard disc data carriers; and
- 5 (c) one or more solid state memory devices,

for recording thereon of one or more of the link data, the linkable data content, the desired scene data and the composite data content.

9. A method according to claim 8, wherein the storing means (100) is disposed
10 such that at least one of the data carriers (120) is externally accessible to the apparatus (10)
for introducing at least one of the link data and the linkable data content to the apparatus.

10. A method according to claim 8, wherein the data carrier (120) is a small
format optical data storage (SFFO) disc.

15 11. A method according to claim 1, wherein the link data includes at least one
universal resource locator (URL) susceptible to being invoked to access linkable data content
via a communication network, for example the Internet.

20 12. A method according to claim 1, wherein:
(i) the link data and its associated linkable data are provided to the apparatus (10)
on an externally accessible first data carrier (120); and
(ii) the one or more links in the link data associated with the spatial location in
step (e) together with the desired scene data content on an internally retained second data
25 carrier (110).

13. A method according to claim 12, wherein the first data carrier is a vendor-
supplied item whose link data and its associated linkable data content are at least partly in
encrypted form and susceptible to being accessed by supplying one or more corresponding
30 decryption keys to the apparatus, such decryption keys being obtainable for example in return
for payment or other consideration.

14. A method according to claim 13, wherein the first data carrier includes
encrypted link data and/or linkable data content which is encrypted in a plurality of degrees

so that progressive access to the link data and/or linkable data content is achievable corresponding to progressive acquisition of decryption keys.

15. A method according to claim 1, wherein the linkable data content includes at least one of: supplementary pictures, movies, sound, text and web-sites.

16. An apparatus (10) operable to include automatically one or more context related links in association with scene data content, characterized in that the apparatus (10) includes:

- 10 (i) data storing means (100) for reading and/or writing data content;
- (ii) sensing means (70) for sensing audio and/or visual subject matter from a scene (FS) and generating corresponding scene data content;
- (iii) identifying means (50, 60) for use in identifying a spatial location of the apparatus (10) in proximity of the scene (FS) and/or an identity of the scene (FS);
- 15 (iv) computing means (30) for co-ordinating operation of the data storing means (100), the sensing means (70) and the identifying means (50, 60);
wherein:
 - (a) the data storing means (100) is arranged to include link data susceptible to being invoked to associate one or more spatial locations with corresponding linkable data content;
 - (b) the apparatus (10) is operable when in proximity of a desired scene (FS) to receive audio and/or visual subject matter therefrom to generate corresponding desired scene data content;
 - (c) the identifying means (50, 60) is operable to determine a spatial location of the apparatus (10) in proximity of the desired scene (FS) and/or the identity of the desired scene (FS);
 - 25 (d) the computing means (30) is operable to identify one or more links in the link data associated with the spatial location (FS) and/or the identity of the desired scene (FS) determined by the identifying means (50, 60), and to record them automatically together in the storing means (100) with at least one of the desired scene data content derived from sensing means (70) and the spatial location and/or the identity derived from the identifying means (50, 60),

wherein the one or more links are concurrently and/or subsequently susceptible to being invoked to include corresponding linkable data content with the scene data to generate final composite data content.

- 5 17. Infrastructure (310, 320) for providing a position reference in proximity of the desired scene (FS) and/or an identification of the desired scene to the identifying means (50, 60) in the method according to claim 1.
- 10 18. Infrastructure (310, 320) for providing a position reference in proximity of the desired scene (FS) and/or an identification of the desired scene for use with the apparatus according to claim 16.